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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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DATE OF June 8-14, 1953
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CPW Report No. 78 -- COMMUNIST CHINA

(June 8 - 14, 1953)

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- 2 -

1. (1b) SINO-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP: Peking reported in numeral code (June 9) that a Chinese Sino-Soviet Friendship Association delegation was in Moscow, and said (June 14) that Soviet artists entertained visiting Chinese. Peking stated (June 14) that the Soviet Academy of Science and other organizations celebrated the memory of the Chinese poet Chu Yuan, while similar ceremonies were held in Poland, Germany, and Rumania. Peking said in numeral code (June 8) that the Soviet publication COMMUNIST recently commented upon the publication of Mao's works in Russian.

2. (1c) SOVIET SUPERIORITY: Peking announced in numeral code (June 9) that the Ministry of Higher Education had invited Soviet educators to conduct courses in Peking, Shanghai, Wuhan, Chungking and Sian which all college teachers would attend. The Russians would lecture on USSR educational methods in an effort to improve teaching standards and introduce advanced Soviet pedagogical experiences.

Peking stated in numeral code (June 13) that expert Soviet guidance at the Nanking Chiangnan Cement Works had resulted in cement for Northwest oil-well construction. Peking added (June 14) that Soviet expert Chemitrov had taught the Taiyuan Steel Works to make superior silicon steel.

Peking reported in numeral code (June 11) that the China Youth Congress was told to emulate Soviet youth in national construction, and to study progressive Soviet science and experience. Peking added in numeral code (June 13) that Lu Chien of Tsinghua University described for the Congress his short-cut method for learning to read Soviet technical books, while a Polish delegate said of construction in his nation: "We achieved this because we have Marxism-Leninism as our guide and the great USSR as our model."

Peking asserted in numeral code (June 13) that Northeast Number 6 Machine Tool Shop workers had learned to use Soviet machines to eliminate vibration in lathe operation. Many Mukden plants adopted the Koselov lathe-operation methods, while the Northeast Number 3 Factory held an exhibition to promote progressive Soviet methods. The Northwest Number 1 Machine Factory made a Soviet-style lathe from cast iron through Russian techniques.

Mukden stated (June 12) that utilization of Soviet quick repair and inspection methods at the Penchi Iron Works had led to furnace repairs good for 8 years. Mukden added (June 14) that the Northeast Number 18 Machine Shop had started making streamlined Soviet lathes to replace older models. Peking asserted in numeral code (June 14) that Dairen Engineering College teachers had adopted Soviet experience in coordinating their study with factory and mine requirements.

3. (2a) PEACE OFFENSIVE: Hangchow, Kunming, Antung, Shanghai and Canton (June 8) carried the text of the Panmunjom POW agreement. Peking asserted in numeral code (June 13) that American forces in Korea and Japan showed great enthusiasm for the truce, and joy at now being able to go home. However, American Government leaders still demanded the draft and expanded armaments, while peace news broke the New York stock market.

Peking asserted in numeral code (June 6) that a truce was made possible through initial and continued Communist efforts, as through 2 years of negotiations each impasse had been broken by constructive Communist proposals. Peking in numeral code (June 11) quoted the CURRENT AFFAIRS HANDBOOK as saying that Russian, Chinese and Korean efforts to bring about peace had made it "increasingly possible to settle international disputes by negotiation" and thus relieve world tensions.

Peking announced in numeral code (June 9) that Trade Minister Yeh Chi-chuang, heading a Chinese trade delegation, had left Moscow for home. Peking in numeral code (June 14) reported British efforts to promote Chinese trade. Peking said in numeral code (June 11) that Tientsin was making more knitted goods at higher prices, but was still underselling Shanghai dealers.

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- 3 -

Peking in numeral code (June 10) announced a Food Ministry order for Government purchase of 80 percent of the wheat crop, as the "purchase of wheat is a political objective of the State food and cooperative network," and was necessary to satisfy peasants' demands and "safeguard the industrial needs of urban areas."

Peking added in numeral code (June 12) that Szechwan farmers were pleased at Government exportation of grain from the area at higher prices. Peking said (June 12) that the Communications Ministry had ordered businessmen to stock up on goods for farmers as they marketed their grain.

Mukden announced (June 11) that trading establishments would extend business hours to accommodate Government workers. Foochow reported (June 8) that "after price adjustments by State enterprises," large amounts of sugar were sold in Kwangtung, Fukien and Chekiang. Changsha said (June 8) that Hunan hsien Governments would punish rice merchants for disturbing the market by hoarding.

Peking stated in numeral code (June 8) that, "triumphing over natural disaster," the Honan wheat yield would reach 60 percent of estimates, and added (June 9) that Chekiang grain was coming to the market much faster this year.

5. (3a) STRENGTHENING PARTY CONTROL: Mukden reported (June 10) that "to implement a system of responsibility" 20 experienced workers had been chosen as inspectors at the Harbin Number 4 Electrical Machine Factory. Tihwa announced (June 10) that the Sinkiang Party Committee had ordered cadres to study Marxism-Leninism.

Peking in numeral code (June 8) quoted Li Chi-yang as explaining to a women's meeting that general elections would combat bureaucracy by removing undesirable elements who "violate law and discipline, commit serious offenses, or arouse the populace."

Peking said in numeral code (June 12) that Fukien People's Liberation Army men had "improved their culture," and could read and write as a result of cadre instruction. Peking added (June 14) that "Ankang" workers were completing production quotas ahead of schedule to celebrate the founding of the Chinese Communist Party.

6. (3a) BASIC CONSTRUCTION: Mukden announced (June 10) that Northeast construction site cadres were ordered to establish systems of responsibility, improve their work, and lower costs. Shanghai asserted (June 14) that many preliberation deposit payments were redeposited "to assist the Government in national construction."

Peking claimed in numeral code (June 8) that rich iron-ore veins had been discovered in the Yenanshan area, Hopei. Peking reported in numeral code (June 10) that 1,000 technicians had been assigned to rehabilitate the Fushun refinery, which would produce Diesel oil and ammonium sulphate. Peking said in numeral code (June 10) that eight Peking hospitals were sending medical teams to construction areas.

Peking complained in numeral code (June 10) that poor leadership at the Northeast Nanhu Power Project resulted in the necessity for doing work over 15 times in half a month. Penchi construction site cadres lacked responsibility, working out systems on paper but never implementing them.

7. (3a) BUREAUCRATIC WEAKNESSES: Mukden reported (June 14) that several State factories had failed to achieve quotas because of poor planning, frequent accidents, or faulty products. Hangchow stated (June 10) that the Chekiang Statistics Bureau found that the Provincial government was using 1,200 forms, only 420 of them approved.

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- 4 -

Nanking said (June 9) that serious errors had been found in Yungli Chemical Works production. Two tons of iron rods were requisitioned when half a ton was needed, while only a fraction of the necessary asbestos sheets were procured.

8. (3b) CONTROL OF RELIGION: Shanghai reported (June 10) that the counterrevolutionary cases examination committee had expressed support for the suppression of Taoist sects. Peking said in numeral code (June 8) that the New China Buddhist Association had written Mao pledging the unity of all Buddhists around his Government to "actively promote patriotism, peace, and national construction."

9. (3a) EVIDENCE OF RESISTANCE: Shanghai reported (June 12) that the Shanghai Military Control Commission set up seven military tribunals to try counterrevolutionaries. Shanghai said (June 8) that local factories must improve labor discipline. In the Number 15 Cotton Mill, 117 of the 643 workers had been absent in April. Hangchow stated (June 9) that the local Fuhua Silk Mills had increased production by tightening work discipline.

Peking announced in numeral code (June 13) that the Northwest Institute of Technology had simplified its curriculum and provided time for student recreation, as the students had been forced to overstudy, impairing their health and scholastic records.

10. (4) BORDER MINORITIES: Chungking (June 8) quoted the PEOPLE'S FIGHTER as saying it would solve the lack of news among border guards by increasing coverage, as well as by promoting patriotism, internationalism and "amity among the minorities and military units." Kunming said (June 10) that Yunnan work teams repairing irrigation systems and offering bank loans had been welcomed by minority groups.

Peking reported in numeral code (June 11) that Tibetans organized in China had translated 250 historical documents on Sino-Tibetan relations, and were editing the news briefs in Tibet under PLA supervision. Peking claimed in numeral code (June 13) that Tibetan Youth Corps members had given the PLA valuable cooperation.

Peking reported in numeral code (June 10) that Turfan Basin, Sinkiang, minority groups had completed the "People's Canal" to irrigate 5,000 mou of land. Tihwa stated (June 8) that a Kashgar landowner tried publicly for interfering with land reform had promised to be law-abiding and support patriotic construction.

11. (4) AMERICAN IMPERIALISM: Peking asserted in numeral code (June 12) that Lieutenant-Colonel Shannon, head of a CIA office in Tokyo, was recruiting former Japanese military officers, gangsters, criminals, traders, fishermen, and special agents to work against the Japanese, China, and the USSR. Korean and Chinese POW's had been forced to train in Hokkaido for espionage work.

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- 2 -

SUMMARY

The importance of Soviet experts, books, and influence in industry get increased emphasis, and in order to speed the Russification of Chinese colleges, special courses by Soviet educators must be attended by all college teachers. However, in an effort to demonstrate that China is a partner rather than a satellite, a Sino-Soviet Friendship Association group visits Russia and there is considerable comment on Soviet respect for Chinese culture.

Persistent Chinese and Korean peace efforts are credited with achieving the Korean POW agreement, while Moscow's peace offensive is given new support. Only the resistance of American warmongers now will prevent American soldiers in Japan, as well as in Korea, from going home. Meanwhile, the reality of economic difficulties is demonstrated by the presence of a trade delegation in Moscow; Government control of the new wheat crop; charges of rice hoarding; and admissions that wheat production in some areas is only 60 percent of the estimate. Claims that Southwest farmers are pleased at high wheat prices and the hurried exportation from that area may screen alarm at Government moves, for only recently parts of the Southwest were considered famine areas.

Stress on the selection of factory inspectors, lax labor discipline, absenteeism, and poor factory leadership suggests disappointing industrial progress. Claims of new support for the suppression of Taoist sects indicate there may also be opposition, while the new China Buddhist Association activities show more clearly its Party control. Changes in college curricula to avoid student overwork recall the elimination recently of certain student meetings, and suggest student dissatisfaction. New insight into the actual implementation of the widely hailed payment of preliberation bank deposits is gleaned from assertions that money is being redeposited to aid the Government.

Apparently, it is considered expedient to reiterate claims that minority groups enthusiastically welcome work teams, while efforts to promote amity between minorities and border guards suggest considerable friction. It also is revealed that the People's Liberation Army supervises new Tibetan publications, while resistance to land reform in Sinkiang is admitted.

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